

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

April 11, 2003 LB 305

input. That is, to me, the hallmark of this very institution, that everything is open. We have open hearings. Everything is open. But what we're doing here at the last minute, by amending this significant policy change, is cutting off public debate. I want to say one last thing. As I was sitting here listening to the comments, I got a phone call from my legislative aide. She said, hey, Pat, you'll never guess what; a constituent just called and he is opposed to what's going on here. So to say that there shouldn't be any or that you won't have any constituent input is crazy. I had a constituent call during this debate who's watching us right now saying thank you, and he's trying to call some boat manufacturers to stimulate some calls to indicate to you that this is an inappropriate action and that we're cutting off public debate. So, Senator Erdman, again, if somehow I've offended you by opposing your amendment, I apologize. It has nothing to do with you. Watch and see. I will vote against Senator Beutler's motion to return later on in the day, if we get it, and I can explain my vote for Senator Friend was a technical amendment, trying to make the law better, trying to make the statutes better for the citizens of Nebraska. That's why I voted for his. It was not a policy change. It was a technical amendment. I am again opposed to this. I just think that it's an inappropriate circumvention of the process. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bourne. Senator Connealy, followed by Senator Erdman, and Bromm.

SENATOR CONNEALY: Thank you, Mr. President, members. I agree with Senator Janssen. There are parts of this that I am in strong favor of, but I don't know about all the rest of it. I don't know what it's going to do to the airboat industry or...I just haven't had enough input from my local constituents and, thus, I'm not going to be able to support the amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Connealy. (Visitors introduced.) Senator Erdman, and this will be your third time, Senator.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Mr. President, on the amendment this is my third time?